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DE RUEHMK #0002 0020626
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7513
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHEVAKS/COMUSNAVCENT PRIORITY
RHMFISS/HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 000002

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/02/2018

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [KDEM](#) [PHUM](#) [BA](#)

SUBJECT: AL-WIFAQ LEADER HOPES POTUS VISIT WILL HELP CEMENT
DEMOCRATIC GAINS

REF: A. MANAMA 1105
[1](#)B. MANAMA 1109
[1](#)C. MANAMA 1110
[1](#)D. MANAMA 1112
[1](#)E. MANAMA 1113
[1](#)F. MANAMA 1118

Classified By: Ambassador Adam Ereli for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

- 1.(C) Summary: The leader of Bahrain's largest Shi'a political party told the Ambassador that it was important that the U.S. continue speaking
- 2.(C) Ambassador and poloff met with MP and Chairman of the Al-Wifaq political society Sheikh Ali Salman on December 29. Salman noted that Bahr
- 3.(C) Ambassador noted that some critics had accused the government of heavy-handedness in dealing with the recent street violence and asked Se
- 4.(C) Comment: This meeting provided a unique opportunity to share the thinking of the man who leads Bahrain's mainstream Shi'a political mover
- 5.(C) Comment continued: Salman's comments to the Ambassador reveal a commitment to moderate political reform and a degree of political maturit